

## **Lymphogranuloma Venereum**

Agent: Specific strains of the bacterium *Chlamydia trachomatis*

Mode of Transmission: Sexually transmitted through direct contact with the lesions of an infected person.

Signs/Symptoms: Ulcerative lesions on the penis or vulva which can go unnoticed, and inflammation of the lymph nodes in the genital area; rectal ulcers may also be present. Fever, chills, headache, anorexia, and joint pain may also be present. Some infections are asymptomatic, especially in females.

Prevention: Preventive measures include adhering to safe sexual practices.

Other Important Information: Historically, lymphogranuloma venereum was thought to occur rarely in most developed countries. However, recent outbreaks in Europe and North America, most among men who have sex with men, have demonstrated its reemergence in these areas.

No cases of lymphogranuloma venereum were reported in Virginia in 2012. The last two reported cases occurred in 2005.